

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5 A register number of a link register, which is  
specified by an instruction equivalent to a  
subroutine call, is registered. The number of a  
branch destination register in a branch instruction  
which can possibly be an instruction equivalent to a  
subroutine return is compared with the registered  
register number. If they match, this branch  
10 instruction is identified as an instruction  
equivalent to a subroutine return.

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